

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
) CASE NO. CR16-80-RSM-005
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
) DETENTION ORDER
GURPREET SINGH SANDHU)
Defendant.)
)
)
)
)

Offenses charged:

1. Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine and Heroin
2. Attempted Possession of Cocaine and Heroin with Intent to Distribute

Date of Detention Hearing: February 7, 2023.

The Court, having conducted a detention hearing pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3142(f) and based upon the factual findings and statement of reasons for detention hereafter set forth, finds that no condition or combination of conditions which defendant can meet will reasonably assure the appearance of defendant as required and the safety of other persons and the community.

01 FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DETENTION

02 1. Defendant has been charged with drug offenses, the maximum penalties of
03 which are in excess of ten years. There is therefore a rebuttable presumption against defendant
04 as to both dangerousness and flight risk, under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e). Defendant is a Citizen of
05 Canada and has lived in British Columbia for twenty-four years. Defendant has two children
06 with his wife, all of whom live in Canada. Defendant possessed a Canadian and Indian
07 passport. The former was seized by Canadian officials in 2018 pursuant to this matter, and the
08 latter Defendant claims expired at an unknown time. He alleged that he visited India
09 approximately four times since moving to Canada, however his wife reported that he visited
10 India nearly annually since 1998. His last visit to India took place in 2017, after he became
11 aware of the Indictment in this matter.

12 2. Defendant poses a risk of flight based on his significant ties to Canada and India
13 and lack of material connections to the United States. His wife, two children, and parents live
14 in Canada. Defendant has no connection or ties to the Western District of Washington.
15 Location monitoring equipment provided by Pretrial Services would not function properly
16 outside of the United States. Further, Pretrial Services does not have an agreement with the
17 supervision office in Canada to provide courtesy supervision. During extradition proceedings
18 in the instant action, Defendant was untruthful with the Canadian authorities when he asserted
19 that he was in ongoing negotiations with the US authorities, in an apparent effort to delay the
20 proceedings. The weight of the evidence is strong, in that when Defendant was stopped at the
21 border in the instant offense, he admitted that he had a secret compartment in his truck, that he
22 met with an individual in Washington to pick up drugs, and that his role was to transport the

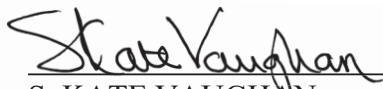
01 drugs across the border.

02 3. There does not appear to be any condition or combination of conditions that will
03 reasonably assure the defendant's appearance at future Court hearings.

04 It is therefore ORDERED:

- 05 1. Defendant shall be detained pending trial, and committed to the custody of the Attorney
06 General for confinement in a correction facility separate, to the extent practicable, from
07 persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal;
- 08 2. Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel;
- 09 3. On order of the United States or on request of an attorney for the Government, the person
10 in charge of the corrections facility in which defendant is confined shall deliver the
11 defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a
12 court proceeding; and
- 13 4. The Clerk shall direct copies of this Order to counsel for the United States, to counsel for
14 the defendant, to the United States Marshal, and to the United State Probation Services
15 Officer.

16 DATED this 7nd day of February, 2023.

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18 S. KATE VAUGHAN
19 United States Magistrate Judge
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